



# SAN DIEGO CITY ATTORNEY JAN I. GOLDSMITH

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## NEWS RELEASE

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### LOCAL SMOKE SHOP OWNER CONVICTED OF SELLING NARCOTIC PARAPHERNALIA

**San Diego, CA:** The San Diego City Attorney's Office announced today that Christopher Nasser, the owner of the "Up in Smoke Shop" located at 2516 University Avenue, San Diego, was convicted on March 17<sup>th</sup> on two misdemeanor counts of selling methamphetamine and crack cocaine pipes from his store, having pled no contest.

The charges arose from a law enforcement operation conducted by the San Diego Police Department. As part of that undercover operation, a San Diego police detective purchased five glass methamphetamine pipes from the store clerk on duty. In all, officers seized over 600 methamphetamine and rock cocaine pipes in addition to digital scales, baggies, and stash containers from the store. The case was prosecuted by Deputy City Attorney Ken So and the San Diego City Attorney's Office Drug Abatement Response Team.

"This sends a strong message to smoke shops throughout the City of San Diego who sell narcotics paraphernalia that this will not be tolerated," said City Attorney Jan Goldsmith. "We will prosecute."

Christopher Nasser faces a maximum of one year in custody, fines, and other conditions as a result of his conviction. Sentencing is scheduled for April 14, 2009 before Judge Richard S. Whitney in Department 47, San Diego Superior Court.

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